

TAC Aligning Economic Development Subcommittee
March 22, 2021, 3:00-4:00pm

Virginia Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee Website:
www.naturalresources.virginia.gov/initiatives/technical-advisory-committee-for-coastal-resilience/

Minutes

Subcommittee Goal: Recommend a process for aligning economic development with coastal resilience practices.

Agenda

I. Open the Meeting

Motion to hold meeting virtually: Sara Dunnigan - DHCD
Second: Emily Steinhilber - ODU
Approved unanimously

II. Welcome New Members

Greg Grootendorst - NVRC
Jennifer Morgan – GWRC. Jennifer is replacing Kate Gibson.

III. Roll Call

Present

Sara Dunnigan - DHCD
John Bateman - NNPDC
Jennifer Morgan - GWRC
Dr. Troy Hartley - Virginia Sea Grant
Greg Grootendorst - NVRC
Lewis Lawrence - MPPDC
Steven Moret - VEDP
Georgie Marquez - Andre Marquez Architects
Emily Steinhilber - CCRFR
Dr. Robert Weiss - VT

Guests:

Rear Admiral Ann Phillips, Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection
Dr. Brian Batten, Dewberry

IV. TAC Activity

Rear Admiral Ann Phillips introduced the contractor, Dewberry and Dr. Brian Batten, who will support the work of the Technical Advisory Committee.

V. Charter Discussion/Approval

Modest adjustments in framing of text to emphasize economic development opportunity presented from resilience and adaptation to climate change

Introduction of critical role of financing, access to capital, and cash flow needs to implement cost-reimbursable economic development grants as barriers to economic development. Barriers that could present disproportionate obstacles to less wealthy communities. Adjustments were made to the Definition: Economic Development section to acknowledge the challenge and ensure the subcommittee address in the final deliverable.

The Charter was accepted as a working document and general guidance to the subcommittee and thus it did not need to be formally adopted by motion and vote of the subcommittee.

VI. Stakeholder List

DHCD had compiled a list of economic development agencies and stakeholders at the state, regional and local level. Proposed to survey the stakeholder list to assess their current level of awareness of the Coastal Master Plan Principles and whether those principles are being considered in economic development decision making now.

Next Steps: DHCD will circulate the list to the subcommittee

Action Item: Subcommittee members will review the list for completeness.

VII. Baseline Stakeholder Survey Discussion

Discussion about the value of surveying businesses in the coastal zone currently vulnerable to climate change. Subcommittee decided that would be a second phase of assessment and might be better suited for the business engagement activities in the forthcoming GO Virginia award to Virginia Sea Grant, RISE, Middle Peninsula Public Access Authority, and Old Dominion University.

Action Item: Emily Steinhilber – ODU will work with Sara Dunnigan – DHCD to draft a questionnaire for the economic development stakeholder list to assess awareness levels and current consideration of Coastal Master Plan Principles by economic development stakeholders. Draft questionnaire will be circulated to the subcommittee, Ann Phillips, and Dewberry.

Action Item: Subcommittee will comment on draft questionnaire.

VIII. Framework Development Timeline

Deferred to next meeting.

IX. Public Comments

None

X. Adjourn

Motion: Lewie Lawrence - MPPDC

Second: John Bateman - NNPDC

Approved Unanimously